

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TEL AV 02270 311502Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 SSM-03 /059 W  
-----011117Z 096635 /13

R 311408Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5511  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEL AVIV 2270

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, IS  
SUBJECT: BEGIN MAY HAVE HEART CONDITION

REF: TEL AVIV 2124

1. TODAY'S JERUSALEM POST REPORTS THAT OPPOSITION LEADER MENAHEM BEGIN HAD COMPLAINED OF SEVERE CHEST PAINS WHEN HE WAS HOSPITALIZED LAST WEEK (REFTEL). THE POST QUOTED BEGIN'S DOCTOR AS SAYING THAT HE HAD SUFFERED CONTRACTIONS OF THE BLOOD VESSELS, BUT "YOU CAN'T CALL IT A HEART ATTACK." (IN THE PAST FEW DAYS THERE HAVE BEEN RUMORS THAT HE HAD SUFFERED A MILD HEART ATTACK).

2. IN A CONVERSATION TODAY WITH THE CHARGE', JEWISH AGENCY TREASURER ARYE DULZIN, A LEADER OF THE LIBERAL FACTION OF THE LIKUD, DESCRIBED BEGIN'S CONDITION AS HAVING "SOMETHING TO DO WITH HIS HEART" AND ADMITTED THE POSSIBILITY THAT BEGIN MAY HAVE TO POSTPONE ACTIVE CAMPAIGNING UNTIL THE LAST TWO WEEKS BEFORE  
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THE ELECTION. HALF FACETIOUSLY, DULZIN ADDED THAT THIS MAY GIVE BEGIN'S CAMPAIGN SPEECHES MORE IMPACT.

3. COMMENT: BEGIN'S ABSENCE FROM THE HUSTINGS COULD DAMAGE THE LIKUD'S CHANCES IN THE ELECTION. AT THIS STAGE THERE IS NO ONE TO REPLACE HIM IN THE PARTY AND THE LIKUD WITHOUT HIM WOULD APPEAR LEADERLESS

AND ALMOST COLORLESS. ON THE OTHER HAND, BEGIN'S  
ILLNESS IS CERTAIN TO REVIVE SPECULATION ABOUT AL-  
TERNATIVE LEADERSHIP FOR THE LIKUD AND ITS POTENTIAL  
COALITION PARTNERS.  
DUNNIGAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HEALTH, PARTY LEADERS, OPPOSITION PARTIES, ELECTION CAMPAIGNS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 31-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977TELAV02270  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770112-0274  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** TEL AVIV  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t1977031/aaaaaamc.tel  
**Line Count:** 67  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 838807ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 TEL AVIV 2124  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2931920  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BEGIN MAY HAVE HEART CONDITION  
**TAGS:** PINT, IS, LIKUD, (BEGIN, MENAHEM)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/838807ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009